

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. ~~A docking station for a mobile computer, comprising:~~

a dock housing for being coupled to a desktop display and including a first bus; and

a bridge coupled between said first bus and a second bus, said first bus residing in said

~~dock housing and said second bus for being coupled to the mobile computer.~~

2. The station according to claim 1, wherein said bridge comprises a serial bridge which separates two sides of the bridge using a parallel connector.

3. The station according to claim 1, wherein said bridge comprises a serial bridge which separates two sides of said bridge using a serial communications layer.

4. The station according to claim 1, wherein one of said first and second busses comprises a primary bus and the other of said first and second busses comprises a secondary bus and wherein said bridge comprises a separated bridge such that a first side of the separated bridge is placed on said primary bus, and a second side of said separated bridge is implemented on said secondary bus or a bus extension.

5. The station according to claim 3, further comprising a converter for converting a parallel bus data into a serial stream and back for the serial communications layer.

6. The station according to claim 5, wherein the serial stream is supported on no more than four wires.

7. The station according to claim 5, wherein the serial stream is supported on four pins.

Sub 50 m 8. A communication system, comprising:

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a mobile computer including an input/output (I/O) bus;
a desktop display panel, including a graphics adaptor, for being operatively coupled to said mobile computer;
a pointing device for providing inputs for display on said panel; and
a dock for mating with the mobile computer using a connection over said I/O bus to drive the graphics adaptor and the panel along with the pointing device,
wherein computing power is provided by said mobile computer with access to the user's data from the mobile computer.

Sub C1 9. The system according to claim 8, wherein said connection comprises one of a serial connection and a parallel connection over said I/O bus.

Sub 15 C1 10. A computer system, comprising:

a mobile computer;
a docking station for receiving said mobile computer;
a separated bridge having a first side coupled to said mobile computer and a second side

~~coupled to said docking station; and~~

a flat panel display coupled to said docking station and for being attached to said mobile computer via said docking station, said first and second sides of said separated bridge being mated by one of a serial connector and a parallel connector.

11. The system according to claim 10, wherein said first side of the separated bridge is placed in said mobile computer and the second side is placed in said docking station.

12. The system according to claim 11, wherein a bus of the mobile computer comprises a primary bus and an extended bus in said docking station functions as a secondary bus, and wherein said secondary bus drives adaptors for peripheral components including any of a high resolution graphics component and a disk drive.

13. The system according to claim 10, wherein said docking station comprises a base of said flat panel display.

14. The system according to claim 12, wherein said docking station includes a docking sleeve, and said mobile computer is slidably fitted into said docking sleeve and mates with a connector for the dock's secondary bus, and

wherein a base of the flat panel display is selectively connected to an input device and a pointing device,

a video adaptor of the display being connected to an input/output (I/O) bus and housed in the base.

15. The system according to claim 14, wherein said input/output (I/O) bus is positioned in said base, further comprising at least one of a compact disk drive (CD) and a digital video disk (DVD) drive coupled to said I/O bus in said base.

16. The system according to claim 10, wherein dimensions of said docking station are selectively adjustable to accommodate a variety of different sized mobile computers.

17. ~~The system according to claim 10, wherein said flat panel display includes a base, said base for attaching said mobile computer to said display.~~

18. The system according to claim 17, wherein said docking station is mounted on said base, said base including a peripheral device for storing an additional application and data for when ~~said mobile computer is used in a desktop mode.~~

19. The system according to claim 14, wherein said base comprises a modular component of said display.

20. The system according to claim 10, further comprising:
a cooling fan formed in said docking station.

21. The system according to claim 18, further comprising:
a cooling fan formed in said base.